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The Colonial Theatre

Fri. and Sat. Nov. 5-6

POULTRY and EGGS

TURKEYS FOR BREEDING.

Selection Should Be Made In Fall Before Marketing Time.

The future breeders should always be selected from the turkey flock in the fall before any have been marketed, at which time the choicest birds can be picked out, says the Iowa Homestead. These selected specimens probably would bring a little more money than some of those marketed, but they are also worth more as breeders than the poor birds. Strong, active, healthy birds—those that have never been afflicted with a serious disease—are wanted if the future turkey crops are to prove profitable. If the beginner



The turkey feed hopper shown in the accompanying picture solves the problem of keeping the chickens from getting the turkey's feed. At fattening time the turkey raiser wishes to keep corn always before his big birds to plump them for market. The hopper shown is simply a trough on legs as high as a turkey reaches to feed, and two boards form a canopy over it to keep out rain and chickens that may fly on top.

In turkey raising wishes to start operations with stock rather than with eggs the fall is the best time to obtain such stock. The birds will then have ample time to become acquainted with their surroundings before the opening of the breeding season. The breeders should be separated from the turkeys that are to be marketed before fattening commences, as the breeding stock is easily injured by getting the birds overfat. If necessary to confine any of the birds during the fattening period let it be the breeders.

Up to their fifth year turkeys are profitable as breeders, though it is a good plan to change gobblers every year, especially if some of the young females are retained as breeders. The male should never be related to any of the hens. Hens are not fully matured until two years old, and they are at their best during the next two or three years. During the mating season the proper proportion to divide the sexes is from six to ten hens with one gobbler, although successful hatches are often obtained when a larger number of females are allowed to each male. When turkeys are properly mated the eggs are usually very fertile.

The breeding stock should receive

good care during the winter months. Without proper care and attention as well as suitable quarters the turkeys will not go through the winter in good health, and consequently they will not be in good condition for the breeding season, and that means poor success with the young. The young turkeys that are bred from healthy stock are hard enough to raise without the extra handicap of none too healthy breeders.

Turkeys do not want damp, stuffy quarters in winter. A well lighted open shed or loft that is fitted up so as to prevent direct drafts, but which provides good ventilation at all times, makes a good place to keep them. Turkeys can stand a good deal of cold, but they cannot stand foul smelling quarters. Fix up some broad perches a couple of feet from the floor in the turkeys' shed, provide troughs for grit and water and in real cold weather put some straw or other litter on the floor. Feed corn and other grains regularly and during severe cold weather give an occasional feed of warm mash.

There are seven recognized breeds of turkeys, but the Bronze, the Bourbon Red and the White Holland are the most popular. The Narragansett also prevails in some sections. Where there is plenty of range and the largest birds are wanted the Bronze is the most profitable breed for the farmer.

Causes of Poultry Losses.

Many of the diseases commonly found among fowls are easily prevented by care and watchfulness. Here follows a list of some of the things that invite diseases on the farm: Crowding too many in one space, ill adapted food, feeding too long on one kind of thing, bad housing, dampness, not enough green stuff, not enough meaty matter, too little exercise or lice and mites.

Potatoes For Fowls.

When potatoes are used for fattening we advise the ration as follows: Three measures of cooked potatoes, two measures ground oats, one measure barley meal. The potatoes should be cooked with a lump of fat if possible; then mix liquor and all with the meals. When ground oats cannot be obtained use fine pollards or middlings.—Western Poultry Journal.

Court Trains.

At the coronation of Queen Adelaide that lady's train tore itself away from the bodice, taking part of the latter with it. When Elizabeth of Austria entered Paris to marry Charles IX, her train was seventy feet long and greatly admired by the people. Elizabeth of Valois wore a train six yards long, which was carried after her by gentlemen as she danced. Mary, queen of Scots, is said to have worn a twelve yard train at balls, also carried by a gentleman.—Pall Mall Magazine.

Too Soon For Her.

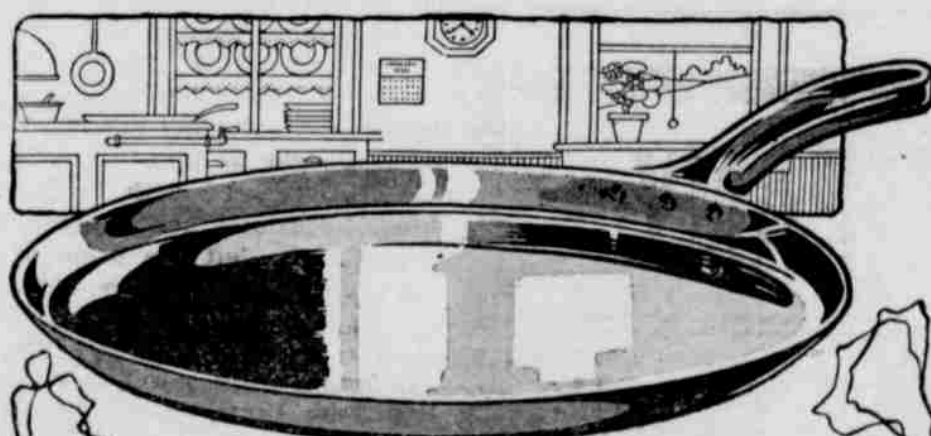
Apropos of those who never enjoy the luxury of a carriage save when the death of some one makes for a free ride to the cemetery a clergyman told of a little girl standing at Fifth avenue and Thirtieth street, New York. She was a ragged little thing, and she was watching some carriages rolling past with the most wistful blue eyes.

"Well, little one," he said, "would you like to own one of those carriages?"

The blue eyes turned up, and there were tears in their corners. "I never rode in a kerridge," she said softly. "Me little brudder died afore I was born."

Money.

"After all, money amounts to very little." "Yes, but in the meantime it amounts to a great deal."—Puck.



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(Drawn by P. W. Crowsell, especially for THE GLEANER & BUSINESS FARMER.)

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